

PROJECT TITLE : Reconstituted Tobacco
PERIOD COVERED : May 22nd - June 23rd, 1980
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MONIQUE/RCB

Production

The cumulated production for the first 6 months of 1980 is 206'143 kg. This is 0.6% lower than the budgeted annual production calculated for 6 months.

Roll coater, rubber roll

On June 9th the rubber roll was replaced again with a new one. During the first week after the change the sheet showed no stripes. After the first weekend shut down the stripes were observed again on Monday. According to the workshop which replaced the rubber there are two possible reasons :

- Bad workmanship of the rubber replacement
- Cooling down during the weekend.

This problem is followed up by the Onnens maintenance department and by process development.

After dryer

On June 9th and 10th the after dryer was isolated.

FTR cutter (Ref. 1)

On June 23rd the existing COMAS slitter cutter was dismantled and the FTR cutter was installed.
The new cutter is working to our satisfaction.

Heat exchanger

On June 23rd 2 electric valves on the heat exchanger had to be replaced with 2 pneumatic ball valves because of bad functioning.

Incorporation of some Swiss loose leaf tobacco into Monique/RCB feedstock (Ref. 2)

The FTR leaf department decided to use some small lots of Swiss tobacco at a rate of 1% in the Monique/RCB feedstock composition. This tobacco is fed together with the stems through the hammer mill.

No processing difficulties were encountered.

Monique/RCB - trials

On May 29th a splitted batch of MLF cut filler was produced : 6 tons of current MLF and 6 tons of MLF containing Monique/RCB sheet, lot No. 0123 (FTR additive formula, 20% reduced), both batches with 3.4% sheet.

Panels A and B preferred the cigarette made from the lot No. 0123 (Ref. 3).

As of May 21st already the reduced additive formula was introduced for current production (Ref. 4).

By instruction of the leaf department the utilization of Monique/RCB is limited to 3.4% in our blends due to insufficient combustibility and taste properties.

At this level the total RCB production cannot be absorbed within FTR. Furthermore due to the contract manufacture the volume of cut filler processed in the FTR primary is very strongly reduced. Both facts resulted in an ever increasing Monique/RCB stock level and duration.

A product quality improvement programme was initiated (Ref. 5).

Additional samples were manufactured in accordance with the blending department using further modified additive formulae.

From those sheets 100% cigarettes were made and smoked by panel A vs. 100% cigarettes of current production.

Panel A preferred the cigarettes from current production (Ref. 6).

A situation report on the RCB/Monique usage was received from PME-LD (Ref. 7).

REFERENCES

Ref 1 : Monthly report, February 1980, Reconstituted Tobacco II, A. Robbiani

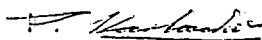
Ref 2 : Letter to Mr. R. Monneron from Mr. L. Robert, liste petits lots inactifs du 2.6.1980, June 10th, 1980.

Ref 3 : Tests de dégustation Nos. 175 + 177 of June 6th and 5th.

Ref 4 : Monthly report, May 1980, Reconstituted Tobacco, A. Robbiani.

- Ref 5 : Memo to J. Gibson from M. Häusermann, Monique-RCB,
May 19th, 1980.
- Ref 6 : Memo to H. Friedrich from PME-LD, RCB-Monique, June 23th,
1980.
- Ref 7 : Memo to H. Friedrich from PME-LD, RCB-Monique, June 23th,
1980.

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT



P. Karbacher



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July 2nd, 1980
KPA/ARO/sde